

NEWS RELEASE

Office of the United States Attorney for the District of Nebraska

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December 20, 2010

United States Attorney Deborah R. Gilg and the Douglas County Sheriff's Office announce the following information for the attention of the media:

Event Triggering this Release:

Leslie C. O'Neal, age 42 of Omaha, was sentenced for receiving child pornography. The Honorable Laurie Smith Camp sentenced O'Neal to 72 months imprisonment. After his release from the Bureau of Prison's, O'Neal will begin a five year term of supervised release.

On May 13, 2010, a search warrant seeking evidence of receipt and distribution child pornography was served on O'Neal's residence by investigators assigned to the FBI's Cyber Crimes Task Force. Two hard drives were seized. A forensic preview of the hard drives revealed 43 videos of child pornography with the majority involving prepubescent minors. During an interview O'Neal admitted downloading child pornography through Limewire.

This case was brought as part of Project Safe Childhood, a nationwide initiative to combat the growing epidemic of child sexual exploitation and abuse launched in May 2006 by the Department of Justice. Led by United States Attorneys' Offices and the Criminal Division's Child Exploitation and Obscenity Section (CEOS), Project Safe Childhood marshals federal, state and local resources to better locate, apprehend and prosecute individuals who exploit children via the Internet, as well as to identify and rescue victims. For more information about Project Safe Childhood, please visit www.projectsafechildhood.gov.

This matter was investigated by the Omaha FBI's Cyber Crime Task Force, of which the Douglas County Sheriff's Office and Nebraska State Patrol are partners. The Omaha CCTF is a multijurisdictional task force consisting of eleven federal, state and local law enforcement agencies from Nebraska and Iowa. The mission of the Omaha CCTF is to investigate and apprehend high technology criminals and to protect our communities by preventing high technology crime and national security threats involving computers and computer networks. The Omaha CCTF was established on the premise that the capabilities of law enforcement agencies to investigate computer and high technology related crimes are enhanced in a task force setting involving the sharing of resources and expertise.

Name of Defendant: Leslie C. O'Neal

AKA:

Age: 42

City of residence: Omaha

Crime(s) Charged and Potential Penalty (A CHARGE is merely an accusation and every defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty): Receipt of child pornography, 5-20 years imprisonment, up to a \$250,000 fine, or both imprisonment and fine, 5 years up to life of supervised release and a \$100 special assessment.

Specific Location of Alleged Crime: Omaha, Nebraska

Location of Arrest: Omaha, Nebraska

Alleged Dollar Loss/Type and Quantity of Drug:

Others Charged in Same Scheme:

Relevant Dates:

Date of Alleged Crime: On and before the 2nd day of December, 2009

Federal Arrest Date: August 4, 2010

Date Complaint Issued: N/A

Indictment Returned Date: June 23, 2010

Initial Appearance Date: August 5, 2010

Plea or Trial and Date(s): Pled guilty on September 20, 2010

Sentencing Date: December 20, 2010

Next Court Hearing Type and Date: N/A

Assigned Magistrate Judge: The Honorable F.A. Gossett, III

Held without Bond, or Released from Custody: Released on bond under pretrial supervision

In Continuous Custody Since: N/A

Assigned District Court Judge: The Honorable Laurie Smith Camp

Initials of Assigned AUSA/Preparer of THIS Release: MPN